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Attorney Docket No. 24826
TECH CENTER 1600/2900

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

DIETRICH, et al.

Serial No.: 09/980492

Art Unit: 1615

Filed: December 4, 2001

Examiner: SHEIKH, H.

For: NOVEL PREPARATION AND ADMINISTRATION FORM COMPRISING AN
ACID-LABILE ACTIVE COMPOUND

#9/B
6/19/03
J. Miller

RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the Official Action dated March 12, 2003. The three-month shortened statutory period for response is set to expire on June 12, 2003. Accordingly, this Response is timely filed within the time period set by the Examiner.

In view of the following amendments and remarks, applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the outstanding rejections and allow all claims pending in this application.

Please amend the application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend pending claims 1, 9 and 11 and add new claims 21-47 as outlined in Appendices A ("mark-up" copy) and B ("clean" copy) enclosed herewith.